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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/610,773	07/06/2000	Isao Yamada	SONY-T0866	5664
29175	7590	12/18/2007		
BELL, BOYD & LLOYD, LLP			EXAMINER	
P. O. BOX 1135			USTARIS, JOSEPH G	
CHICAGO, IL 60690				
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2623	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			12/18/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/610,773	Applicant(s) YAMADA, ISAO	
	Examiner Joseph G. Ustaris	Art Unit 2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 27-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 27-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 July 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on October 25, 2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 27, 29-32, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamemoto (US 20030135852A1) in view of Alexander et al. (US006177931B1) and Hazra (US006510553B1).

Regarding claim 27, Kamemoto discloses an information processing apparatus (See Fig. 4) comprising:

first reception means (See Fig. 4, tuner 2) which receives television programs (See paragraph 0024, programs) via a first transmission path (See Fig. 4, antenna 1);

second reception means (See Fig. 4, modem 33) which receives information via a second transmission path (See Fig. 4, telephone line 34 and modem 33);

display control means (See Fig. 4, microcomputer 35) which operates a display device (See Fig. 4, picture tube 7) to display a specified television program received by the first reception means (See paragraph 0053, user selects channel that is displayed on the main screen) in a first region of the display device (See Fig. 6, main-screen 55) and a plurality images in a second region of the display device (See Fig. 6, sub-screens 56-59).

However, Kamemoto does not explicitly disclose receiving supplementary information via the second transmission path, wherein the supplementary information includes a plurality of symbolic images, each symbolic image indicating a kind of supplementary information received by the second reception means;

selection means for selecting a symbolic image; and

wherein the display control means controls to display, in response to the selection of a symbolic image, the supplementary information indicated by the selected symbolic image in the first region and the specified television program in place of the selected symbolic image in the second region.

Alexander et al. (Alexander) discloses an interactive television system. Alexander discloses that the system receives supplementary information (advertising data/web site addresses) via a second transmission path (Internet by telephone line and modem) (See col. 8 lines 37-64), wherein the supplementary information (advertising data/web site addresses) includes a plurality of symbolic images (See Fig. 1, windows 14 and 16;

col. 34 lines 10-25, advertisement graphics and videos), each symbolic image indicating a kind of supplementary information (advertising data/web site addresses) received by the second reception means (modem). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system, telephone line, and modem disclosed by Kamemoto to receive supplementary information via the second transmission path, wherein the supplementary information includes a plurality of symbolic images, each symbolic image indicating a kind of supplementary information received by the second reception means, as taught by Alexander, in order to provide and improve opportunities for commercial advertisers to reach the viewer (See col. 2 lines 5-21).

Hazra discloses an interactive television system. Hazra discloses a selection means for selecting a symbolic image (See col. 7 lines 34-37) and that the display control means controls to display, in response to the selection of a symbolic image, the supplementary information indicated by the selected symbolic image in the first region and the specified television program in place of the selected symbolic image in the second region (See Fig. 3, the swapping of "A" and "B"; col. 7 lines 8-51). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system disclose by Kamemoto to have a selection means for selecting a symbolic image and that the display control means controls to display, in response to the selection of a symbolic image, the supplementary information indicated by the selected symbolic image in the first region and the specified television program in place of the selected symbolic image in the second region, as taught by Hazra, in order

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to allow the user to give priority to items on display thereby ensuring that enough information that the user wishes to receive is conveyed (See col. 2 lines 26-32).

Regarding claim 29, the system further has an access means (See Kamemoto Fig. 4, modem 33; the modem is also considered an access means) which accesses a server (e.g. web site on the Internet) to obtain further data related to the supplementary information (advertising data/web site addresses) (See Alexander col. 17 lines 50-67 and col. 18 lines 1-12).

Regarding claim 30, the first region is a larger screen area at a top section of the display device (See Kamemoto Fig. 6, 55).

Regarding claim 31, the second region is a smaller screen area at the bottom section of the display device (See Kamemoto Fig. 6, 56-59).

Claims 32 and 34 contains the limitations of claims 27 and 29 respectively and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

4. Claims 28, 33, and 35 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamemoto (US 20030135852A1) in view of Alexander et al. (US006177931B1) and Hazra (US006510553B1) as applied to claims 27 and 32 above, and further in view of Berezowski et al. (US006064376A).

Regarding claim 28, Kamemoto in view of Alexander and Hazra does disclose selecting a symbolic image and displaying the content associated with the selected symbolic image on the first portion and displaying the television program in the second portion as discussed above. However, Kamemoto in view of Alexander and Hazra does

not disclose that the display control means controls to display a transition screen on the display device by gradually expanding the selected symbolic image and gradually reducing the frame of the specified television program.

Berezowski et al. (Berezowski) discloses an interactive television system. Berezowski discloses that the display control means controls to display a transition screen on the display device by gradually expanding the selected symbolic image (See Fig. 5, 42 and 40) and gradually reducing the frame of the specified television program (See Fig. 5, 38)(See Fig. 5; col. 2 lines 51-58 and col. 4 lines 19-40). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the display control means disclosed by Kamemoto in view of Alexander and Hazra to display a transition screen on the display device by gradually expanding the selected symbolic image and gradually reducing the frame of the specified television program, as taught by Berezowski, in order to provide a smooth transition that is more esthetically pleasing for the viewers (See col. 7 lines 58-59).

Claim 33 contains the limitations of claims 28 and 32 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Regarding claim 35, Kamemoto in view of Alexander, Hazra, and Berezowski discloses controls to gradually transition, in response to the selection of the symbolic image, the selected symbolic image from the second region to the first region as discussed in the rejection of claims 32 and 33. Furthermore, the system also displays the supplementary information (particular web site) indicated by the selected symbolic

image (advertisement graphics and videos) in place of the selected symbolic image in the first region (See Alexander col. 18 lines 1-12 and 33-53).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 27-35 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

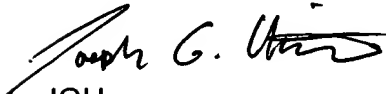
Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph G. Ustaris whose telephone number is 571-272-7383. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5 PM; Alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher S. Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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December 17, 2007